

CLAIMS:

1. A molded gangway section comprising an upper surface, side surfaces, and a lower surface, said surfaces defining a volume; said lower surface comprising a plurality of recesses; said recesses being defined by a side wall extending from said lower surface towards said upper surface and a recess ceiling; said recess ceiling comprising a plurality of grooves in said ceiling toward said gangway upper surface.

2. The gangway section of claim 1 where said recess ceiling grooves are adjacent said upper surface.

3. The gangway section of claim 2 wherein said recess ceiling grooves contact said upper surface.

4. The gangway section of claim 1 wherein said recess ceiling grooves are substantially parallel to each other.

5. The gangway section of claim 4 wherein said recess ceiling grooves include at least one first groove and at least one second groove; said first groove being defined by a surface having a generally constant width and said second groove having a first portion with a surface of a first thickness and a second portion with a surface of a second thickness; said second portion surface being a continuation of said first portion surface.

6. The gangway section of claim 5 wherein said gangway upper surface includes a groove; said upper surface groove and said recess ceiling grooves being generally parallel to each other; said upper surface groove being

offset from said recess ceiling second groove and above said recess ceiling first groove.

7. The gangway section of claim 6 wherein said gangway upper surface groove and said recess ceiling first groove are in contact with each other.

8. The gangway section of claim 1 wherein two or more of said gangway sections are connected together to form a gangway; said gangway sections each comprising at least one elongate channel extending substantially the length of the gangway sections; said channels receiving a reinforcing member which extends substantially across adjacent gangway sections.

9. The gangway section of claim 8 wherein said reinforcing member comprises a truss member sized to span a junction between adjacent gangway sections.

10. The gangway section of claim 1 wherein two or more of said gangways are connected together to form a gangway of a desired length; said gangway sections each including a connecting portion at at least one end of said gangway sections; said gangway section further including a connecting plate; said connecting plate being sized to span a junction between adjacent gangway sections and being secured to an underside of said gangway section upper surface of each of said gangway sections.

11. The gangway of claim 1 wherein said volume is hollow.

12. The gangway of claim 1 wherein said side surfaces define a wall extending above said upper surface.

13. The gangway of claim 12 including a groove along the junction between said upper surface and at least one of said side walls.

14. A molded gangway comprising:

an upper surface;

side surfaces; and

a lower surface; said lower surface comprising

a plurality of recesses; said recesses being defined by a side wall extending from said lower surface towards said upper surface and a recess ceiling; said recess ceiling being spaced from said upper surface;

a plurality spaced apart grooves in said recesses; said grooves extending across said recesses and being defined by a groove wall, said groove wall being adjacent a bottom side of said gangway upper surface.

15. The gangway of claim 14 wherein said upper surface includes spaced apart grooves; said upper surface grooves being generally parallel to said recess ceiling grooves; at least some of said recess ceiling grooves adjacent at least some of said upper surface grooves.

16. The gangway of claim 15 wherein said recess ceiling grooves include at least one first groove and at least one second groove; said wall of said first groove being of a generally constant width and said wall of said second groove having a first portion having a first thickness and a second portion having a second thickness; said gangway upper surface grooves being offset from said recess ceiling second groove and above said recess ceiling first groove.

17. The gangway of claim 16 wherein said recess ceiling grooves contact said upper surface; said recess ceiling first groove contacting said upper surface grooves and said recess ceiling second grooves contacting said upper surface between said gangway upper surface grooves.

18. The gangway of claim 14 wherein said recesses are formed in at least three columns, there being two outer columns and at least one inner column.

19. The gangway of claim 18 wherein each column of recesses includes two or more rows of recesses.

20. The gangway of claim 19 wherein grooves are formed in said bottom surface between said rows of recesses.

21. The gangway of claim 19 including grooves in said gangway bottom surface between said outer columns of recesses and the sides of said gangway.

22. The gangway of claim 18 wherein a trough is formed in the section of said gangway bottom surface which separates said outer and inner columns of recesses.

23. The gangway of claim 18 wherein the recess grooves of said inner column are all identical.

24. The gangway of claim 18 wherein at least one of said grooves of said outer column recess includes a first portion having a wall of a first thickness and a second portion having a wall of a second thickness.

25. The gangway section of claim 14 wherein said gangway includes a connection surface at at least one end thereof and a hinge member mountable to

said connection surface, said hinge member including a pin sleeve which, when said hinge member is mounted to said gangway section, extends outwardly from said end of said gangway section.

26. The gangway section of claim 25 wherein said gangway includes a bracket mountable to a shore abutment, pier, dock, or the like; said bracket including pin sleeves positioned to be aligned with the pin sleeves of said hinge member; said gangway section including a hinge pin which extends through the pin sleeves of said hinge member and said bracket.

27. The gangway section of claim 25 wherein the gangway section includes a roller assembly and/or a ramp.

28. The gangway section of claim 27 wherein said ramp includes a sloped upper surface, a back surface, and ears extending from said back surface; said ears including openings therein which are aligned with said hinge member pin sleeves when said ramp is adjacent said gangway section; said gangway section including a hinge pin which extends through the pin sleeve of said hinge member and said ramp ears to hingedly connect said ramp to said gangway.

29. The gangway section of claim 27 wherein said roller assembly includes opposed mounting members mountable to lower surfaces of the sides of said gangway and a roller extending between said mounting members; whereby said roller is vertically spaced from said connecting surface and said mounting brackets are horizontally spaced from said connecting surface, such that said roller assembly can be mounted to said gangway along with said ramp.